

MEXICO CITY ISOLATED BY CENSORS' RULE

Delivery of Messages
Asking True Con-
ditions Refused.

ZAPATA REPORTED TO BE IN CONTROL

El Paso Hears of Pillage,
Washington of Order
Restored.

The Tribune last night attempted to reach several persons in Mexico City by telegraph to ascertain the real conditions in the capital, concerning which there are many conflicting reports. In the case of every telegram the following answer was received: "Your words, night press 25th stopped by censor."

The censorship not only refuses to allow the truth to be told about the actual state of affairs in Mexico City, but refuses to allow the delivery of messages inquiring about them.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
El Paso, Tex., Nov. 25.—Mexico City is in the hands of bandits, and mobs are running through the streets, looting stores and homes and killing residents, according to messages received here to-night by Carranza agents. Anarchy reigns and the people in terror are praying for the coming of Villa to deliver them from Zapata, state the same dispatches.

Carranza officials on the border today were in communication with Mexico City through secret agents in the capital, while Villa's agents in Juarez were cut off from communication except through representatives reaching Aguas Calientes. Carranzaists advised told of wild disorders in the capital following the entry of Zapata's troops, who have been waiting for three years for the opportunity which was presented when the Carranza forces evacuated.

Zapata soon after his entry issued a proclamation declaring himself supreme in command and repudiating the Aguas Calientes convention. Looting and mob rule which began when Blanco quit the capital grew in violence after the Zapata forces entered. Zapata's men joining in the looting, according to stories told here. Nothing was said in the Carranzaist address of efforts by foreign diplomatic representatives to reach Zapata and demand protection for their nationals, but it was stated that the foreigners were armed, had barricaded themselves in houses and were fighting off the mobs. Villa, whose army was supposed to be within a few miles of the capital, had been informed of conditions, and was hastening to enter the city. It was said he would have to fight his way in and subdue the Zapata forces before he could gain control of the situation.

Washington, Nov. 25.—The forces of General Zapata occupied Mexico City last night and are maintaining order, according to official telegrams from Mexico City dated today and received here late to-night.

Two messages were received, one from the Brazilian Minister and the other from American Consul Silliman. Mr. Silliman reported that the Zapata forces after sharp fighting entered just as the forces of General Blanco evacuated the city. There was disorder and looting. Convention forces, under General Villa, were expected late today.

The Brazilian Minister said he had received assurances from the Zapataists that they would maintain order. Before the Zapata forces entered Colonel Saldana, an Argentinean, with the diplomatic corps, organized a patrol service with the police force, whose arms had been taken from them by the departing troops.

Understanding the constant entry of Zapata troops during the night the Brazilian Minister said order had been maintained.

With Mexican conditions more chaotic than before the evacuation of Vera Cruz by the American troops, Secretary Bryan kept up his hopes for peace in Mexico. He announced that special envoys would follow Villa, Carranza and Guerrero.

SHOOT MAN WHO REFUSES HIM CASH

Assailant Completes Tragedy in
Philadelphia Hotel with Suicidal
Shot on the Spot.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
Philadelphia, Nov. 25.—An unidentified man, about twenty-three years old, walked into the Adelphi Hotel to-night, tapped at the door of the room occupied by M. G. Condon, president of the H. B. Underwood Company, machinists, at 1025 Hamilton st., and demanded a large sum of money.

Condon refused, and the young man shot him in the left side in the presence of his wife and then blew out his own brains.

Condon sank to the floor without a word and is dying in the Jefferson Hospital. His body is at the Morgue.

Condon is about forty-four years old. He has a residence at North Wales, Penn., and another at Atlantic City.

Before You Start Carving
Get in Touch with
Briggs's Cartoon To-day, Page 8.

CROKER, 73, TO WED INDIAN MAID TO-LAY

Bride, Granddaughter of Cherokee Warrior, Is Writer,
Singer and Suffragist, and Fifty Years Younger
than Ex-Tammany Chief.

The marriage of Richard Croker, former Tammany chief, to Miss Beulah Benton Edmondson, descendant of a Cherokee Indian chieftain, will take place this morning at 10:30 o'clock. To this should be added the proviso "if not sooner," for much secrecy surrounds the exact arrangements for the wedding. Secrecy also surrounded the identity of the bride-to-be until The Tribune yesterday morning in a dispatch from Memphis dispelled it.

But the license has been issued—not, to be sure, with the tribal name of the bride, which is Ketaw Kalutuchy, written in it, but nevertheless it was signed by this very Indian princess. The chief surprise in the information in the license is that Mr. Croker gives himself two years more than had been credited to him, and Miss Edmondson clipped off two years from what was supposed to be the number of her Indian summers. The ages given were seventy-three for the bridegroom and twenty-three for the bride.

Precisely according to the arrangement made at the marriage license bureau during the afternoon, City Clerk P. J. Scully arrived at 6:30 o'clock last evening at the home of Nathan Straus, 27 West 72d st. Mr. Croker and Miss Edmondson were already there, and the former Tammany chief had already showed his training as a boss by telling the servants in

PEARY NOT SURE OF CROCKER LAND

MacMillan News Leads
Him to Think He May
Have Been Mistaken.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, Nov. 25.—Asserting that both physical conditions and theory still pointed to the existence of land somewhere between MacMillan's route and that of Stefansson to the westward, Admiral Peary declared to-night that he may have been mistaken in his discovery of Crocker Land, doubts as to whose existence has been raised by reports from the MacMillan expedition. He said, he saw the summit of Crocker Land from the tops of Cape Colgate and Cape Hubbard, but that it is almost an axiom in Arctic exploration that one can never be entirely sure of what he sees in the Arctic until he has had his foot on it.

"Seen from a distance," Admiral Peary said, "an iceberg black with earth and stones may be taken for a rock, a cliff-valley filled with fog for a fjord and the dense low clouds above a patch of open water for land."

He added that if MacMillan traversed the locality where he Peary saw the summit of Crocker Land then he has settled the matter for that locality, though both physical indications and theory still pointed to the existence of land somewhere in that region between MacMillan's route and that of Stefansson to the west.

"I am glad," continued Admiral Peary, "that the energy and interest of the American Museum of Natural History has resulted in that region being explored and the conditions there determined. I am particularly glad that MacMillan and Green accomplished their hazardous task and returned just as the forces of General Blanco evacuated the city. There was disorder and looting. Convention forces, under General Villa, were expected late today."

It is very gratifying to note how MacMillan's traverse into the unknown, with Bartlett's drift in the Karluk and Stefansson's dash west of Bank's Land are steadily increasing our knowledge of the North Polar Basin.

ASHLEY ARRESTED IN MURDER CASE

Police Lieutenant, Once Exonerated,
Locked Up Again
Last Night.

Police Lieutenant B. Jamin F. Ashley was arrested at headquarters last night on an indictment charging murder in the first degree in killing William Nash in a row following a dance at the Bill Nash Association at 162 West 144th st. on the morning of July 5.

Ashley was exonerated by the coroner's jury on his defense that he was upon by members of the Canby gang, who were attempting to rescue a prisoner Patrolman Edward Thompson was taking to the Harlem Hospital, and that he shot in self-defense. Coroner Keardon, on objection of the Canby gang, who were attempting to rescue a prisoner Patrolman Edward Thompson was taking to the Harlem Hospital, and that he shot in self-defense. Coroner Keardon, on objection of the Canby gang, who were attempting to rescue a prisoner Patrolman Edward Thompson was taking to the Harlem Hospital, and that he shot in self-defense.

Ashley's arrest while on duty came as a surprise to his counsel, Frank A. Sittenfeld, Goldsmith & Sittenfeld. It was the first intimation either had had that the matter had been presented to the grand jury again.

HEAR CYMRIC IS SUNK

Rumors Say Germans Destroyed
Liner in North Sea.

Rumors were current yesterday at the Maritime Exchange that the White Star liner Cymric had been sunk by the Germans in the North Sea. Officials of the line said they knew nothing of the Cymric, as she had been taken over by the British government and was being used as a supply ship.

The vessel was in the passenger and freight service of the White Star Line between Boston and Liverpool, and made occasional trips to this port.

CHICKEN THIEVES MURDERED BAFF, POLICE BELIEVE

Theory of Poultry Trust
Vendetta Now Aban-
doned by Sleuths.

'PHONE CALL PRIOR TO DECOY MESSAGE

Abandoned Gun and Cryptic
Postcard Warnings
Are Sole Clues.

There is this morning no more information at hand about the murder of Bernard Baff, the anti-poultry trust chicken merchant of 64 Thompson st., who was decoyed by a message to a convenient spot for his slayer in West Washington Market on Tuesday evening, than there was before Baff's life was taken.

Enough apparent leads have been exploded to indicate that the New York Live Poultry Merchants' Protective Association, an organization founded by Baff as an independent, is in no way concerned in the murder. That body seemed to furnish the main line of inquiry because of Baff's legal activity since the spring of 1910. Now that investigation there appears unfruitful, it is believed that Baff's troubles with men who stole some of his chickens from shipments consigned to him to the Erie Railroad yards, in Jersey City, may supply the explanation of his murder.

The police—and that includes Commissioner Woods, who is confronted by the first big murder case since he took office; Inspector Faurot and Captain Gray, of the Detective Bureau, and Captain Carey, of the Homicide Bureau—saw no light when the day was over. Neither did Assistant District Attorney Walter R. Duell, who is investigating in co-operation with the police.

In the Rosenthal case, with which this murder has been compared, Mr. Whitman learned the number of the automobile containing the gunmen. Here there is a clue not so definite. Judging from yesterday's results, for, though a revolver has been found, it has not been determined from whose hands it passed to those of the person who employed it on Tuesday night.

Sleuths on Case Baffled.
Even detectives known to the merchants of the section where Baff was slain were unable yesterday to light on an opening to information. And detectives sent to New Jersey, whence the trail apparently leads, reported lack of progress last night.

Baff employed several clerks—five or six, his business neighbors guessed, and Baff's son and partner, Harry, would not say—and they circulated busily around the office on Tuesday evening about the time that the telephone rang, the caller asking for Bernard Baff and declining to identify himself.

Several calls of that kind had been made since Baff, for years ago, took his stand against the poultry trust, the clerk, suspicious, tried to hold the caller on the wire until the point of call could be traced on an outside telephone. But when the clerk, after a few minutes of indecision, returned to the transmitter to ask, "Wait a moment," he found that the other person had disconnected.

In the face of similar calls that one was of no moment at the time. In less than five minutes somebody tapped at the door of Baff's private office and announced that Baff was wanted "around on Hewitt av." That was a block away.

Eight minutes later Baff was shot, the time being figured by a poultry man's departure from his office. He had not reached Hewitt av. when two men fired at him from behind. One of the two shots reached Baff's heart.

Slight Clues Furnished.
Assistant District Attorney Duell, quickly at work, got very little aid from Harry, the victim's son. Harry told of his father's activity in the investigation which resulted in the conviction of thirteen members of the poultry trust and of indefinite threats "which had been made on the elder Baff's life. Meanwhile the police had been unable to get anything save three guesses at the number of the automobile which carried the gunmen away, and a statement by Joseph Lisansky, of 152 East 111th st., employed by Baff, that he had seen the shooting.

"Who were the men, do you know?" asked Captain Carey.

"I don't know," said Lisansky.

Further questions brought such discouraging replies that Captain Carey asked:

"Could you say positively whether the men were white or black?"

Lisansky evinced in his examination such stress of excitement that the police decided it was wise to hold him as a material witness until he was calm, when he might be of real assistance.

Several times before his death Baff remarked to his intimates and to his attorney William Grant Brown, of the Woolworth Building, that he knew he was a marked man. He had received threats with cryptic markings suggesting to a fearing man, a violent end. It was his belief that one of the persons he had opposed in business would be behind a move to finish him. His conversation on this was generalized. His repeated complaint against chicken thieves in Jersey City provided no source of worry.

Several of Baff's friends and relatives were at his home at 76 West 120th st. yesterday. Harry Baff, his son, said he had been instructed not to talk to any one outside of the Police Department and the District Attorney's office. The funeral will be to-day, the service being held this morning in a church at 11 Willett st., and the burial will be in Washington Cemetery.

It's a Long Way to Peace, Says Prince von Buelow

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Berlin (via London), Nov. 25.—The "Berliner Tagblatt" prints a letter from Prince von Buelow, the ex-Chancellor, in which he expresses the fear that the war will "prove a very difficult task for Germany." Of course, the Prince winds up by affirming his belief in the ultimate triumph of the German arms, but several times he repeats that victory will be won only with great difficulty.

There is also a eulogy of the British troops, written by a high German officer at the front. He handsomely admits that the British infantry have done wonders, especially around Ypres. Their regulars are among the finest troops in the world, he writes, and "there must be something, after all, to say for the Englishman's love of sport, for nothing but well trained and particularly fit young fellows could shape as well as the new troops the English keep bringing up. They are all first class fighters. The British have quite outpointed our men in shooting, patrol work, marching out and scouting. They are simply marvellous."

The writer concludes that the British may be mercenaries, but that they are well worth the money they draw.

GERMAN SUBMARINE OFF HAVRE STEAMER

Havre, via Paris, Nov. 26.—The British steamer Melchite has been sunk by a German submarine a few miles northwest of Cape La Hève, which is about three miles from Havre.

The Melchite, a steamer of about 2,000 tons, belonging to the Cunard Company, was bound from Liverpool to Havre. She was stopped by the submarine, and the crew was given ten minutes to get into the ship's boats. After this was done the submarine sank the Melchite, and then closed her own hatches and dove beneath the sea, leaving the crew of the steamer to make their way to Havre. They arrived safely a few hours after their boat had been sunk.

JOFFRE DIRECTS WAR 70 MILES FROM FIRING

Master Mind of Western Campaign Recluse in Peaceful
Village as He Keeps in Constant Touch
with His Armies.

General Joffre's Headquarters, Nov. 25.—The nerve centre that moves more than two million men in a village schoolhouse seventy miles behind the firing lines. The rare observer who is permitted to learn its whereabouts and approach finds an absolute contrast between the tranquillity here and the intense action near the trenches. No cannon, machine gun or rifle fire can be heard here.

The commander in chief co-ordinates his information and arrives at his decisions not only far from the disturbance of actual conflict, but in the depths of the country, away from the first and second lines of reserves, the incessant movement of motor transport and the dislocation of civil life. An air of repose surrounds the headquarters, but life is intense here also, a twenty-four hour day of study and acts of judgment.

"What young colonel you have here!" remarked the correspondent to a member of the staff.

"They are the men of the future," he replied. "Some of these young colonels are at their desks at 5 in the morning and go to their quarters in the evening. They are relieved by others, and each sort of work goes on throughout the night."

Six Chief Subordinates.
General Joffre has six subordinate nerve centres in the six suburbs into which the field forces are divided. The six generals commanding these armies, Paul Foch, Dalaire, Franche-Espérance, Castelnau, Manoury, each with his general staff, are connected by direct telegraph and telephone wires with headquarters. General Joffre often talks over situations by telephone, receives suggestions and gives orders which are confirmed and recorded by telegraph.

He is also in direct and frequent communication with Field Marshal French and Belgian headquarters, and with Bordeaux and Paris.

A single sentinel paces in front of the entrance. Except for a few forerunner guards, there are no soldiers in General Joffre's village except the group of youngsters on his staff, picked for their talent among 50,000 officers of France. The road of approach are watched by gendarmes, and it is impossible to enter the place except by a pass signed either by the chief of General Joffre's staff or by one of the few persons in the military administration authorized to sign such a pass.

The headquarters of the commanding general used to be distinguished by the orderlies and horses in front, and his rank is pretty well determined by their number. Now it is by the number of motor cars. Some ten or twenty long, high-power runners are usually lined up in the playground of the school house. There is no tooting of horns. The cars come and go quickly and swiftly.

The representative of the British War Office, Colonel Yardley-Cullen, or an officer from the immediate front, or a delegate from the government, but, for the most part, there is little coming and going. The vast business of the drama is transacted by wire. The meaning and significance of it all can be determined only by events remote from here.

HER GRACE OF MARLBOROUGH HAS NETTING STRETCHED OVER SUN- DERLAND HOUSE.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Nov. 25.—The Duchess of Marlborough, following the example set by many prominent persons here, has fortified her home, Sunderland House, in Curzon st., against Zeppelin attacks. A stout wire netting attached to heavy poles stretches across the roof at the height of several feet. Sunderland House is the Duchess's personal property, given her by her father, who bought the site of the old Curzon Chapel on which to erect it.

Measures to prevent damage by bombs are still being taken by public institutions, one of the latest of these being the State Gallery of British Art. Some time ago the National Gallery stored 250 of its finest paintings. Several of the best works of Turner, Burne-Jones and Rossetti have been taken from the walls of the Tate Gallery. In each room are big cans of sand to be used to smother any outbreak of fire caused by bombs.

MAY BOTTLE SHIPS IN SUEZ WATERWAY

Berlin, Nov. 25 (by wireless to Sayville, Long Island).—The British-Indian troops along the Suez Canal have been defeated, according to a report from Milan, and the Turks are advancing with heavy batteries to destroy the constructive works of the canal and bottle up the British warships now in the waterway.

EXPLOITS OF EMDEN HELP SHIPBUILDING

London, Nov. 25.—The exploits of the Emden and other German cruisers in capturing and sinking ships has resulted in a boom in the shipbuilding industry. In the north of England the yards have booked orders for 200,000 tons of new shipping, while on the Clyde alone orders have been given for 50,000 tons.

GERMAN RETREAT IN POLAND A ROUT, RUSSIANS REPORT

Kaiser's Armies on Vistula-Wartha Front
Surrounded and Attempting Supreme
Effort to Cut Through on North.

FIFTY THOUSAND PRISONERS TAKEN

Reinforcements Rushed from Prussia Arrive
Only Just in Time to Support the
Retiring Invaders.

While Russian official reports tell of steadily beating back the Germans between the Vistula and the Wartha, in Poland, unofficial dispatches declare that the defeat of the invaders has at some points been turned into a rout.

Further south the Russians have crossed the Carpathians, and are again on the great plain of Hungary, after inflicting heavy losses on the Austrians.

As the Germans mass their forces for another assault to reach the French coast the Allies are preparing to launch great forces at the point of attack. The French have bombarded Arrasville, ten miles from Metz, the German stronghold in Lorraine.

Petrograd reports that the Turkish army in Armenia is retreating to the shelter of the Erzerum forts. Berlin says the Turks defeated the British Indians at the Suez Canal, and are planning to destroy construction works in the waterway in order to bottle up British warships.

GERMANS RUSH TO SUPREME ASSAULT

Reinforcements of Allies
Ready for Point Attacked
—Advance on Metz.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Paris, Nov. 25.—Every movement now being made by the Allies behind the long battle front through Belgium and France indicates that all other considerations are being sacrificed to that of facilitating a mobility that will permit the concentration of an immense body of troops opposite whatever point against which the Germans may launch their daily expected assault in force to hammer gap through to the French ports on the Channel.

Though air reconnaissance, it is believed, have narrowed the area against which the allied commanders may expect the offensive movement, preparations on other parts of the line have not been neglected. It is generally assumed by military experts, however, that the blow will be delivered somewhere between the Ypres region and Arras, as a break in the line further south than the French route to Boulogne, Calais or Dunkirk. The persistence with which the German commanders from the first have thrown their soldiers against the British forces, now stationed about Ypres, is taken as an indication that the Englishmen will not be neglected on the great charges by the Kaiser's troops.

Germans Seem Confident.
The Germans apparently are more than usually confident that their coming attack will land them at their objective point. They have seemed almost cynically indifferent whether their enemy discovered that they were bringing up great bodies of men and immense quantities of heavy artillery through Belgium. The constant stream of reports concerning their preparations has told the same story, and there is no evidence that the invaders have attempted to cover their efforts with secrecy.

There are not lacking those who predict an attack at some point around Tracy-de-Vaux or Soissons designed to carry an army to the gates of Paris, though the opinion of the General Staff as to the likelihood of such a movement in this phase of the campaign is, of course, a different one.

There is a general confidence, especially since the destruction of Zebrugg and the immense naval supplies of the Germans there by the British squadron, along the coast to Dunkirk will be impossible, and the results of the last few days have shown the protection afforded by the miles of inundated land between the coast and Bixschotte in the Ypres territory.

Allies Resume Offensive.
In the meantime the Allies have not relaxed entirely their offensive movements during their preparations to receive what is expected to be the most violent onslaught of the western campaign. To-day's War Office report shows that in their bombardment of Arrasville the French have extended the tip of their right wing to a point within ten miles of the great German fortress of Metz. They have advanced German officers and more than 100 men, together with one mortar and three machine guns.

Northwest of Verdun, at the village of Bethincourt, the French assumed the counter-offensive in reply to a German attack, and gained such an advantage that the invaders requested a cessation of hostilities. This was denied by the French commander.

Official information in reply to a detachment of the Indian troops in Flanders had gallantly retaken some trenches which the British lost yesterday. The Indians captured three German officers and more than 100 prisoners, together with one mortar and three machine guns.

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VON MOLTKE DENIES TROUBLE WITH ALLY

Prague, Nov. 25.—The "Tagblatt's" Prague correspondent says that in an interview Field Marshal Count von Moltke, German chief of staff, declared there was no foundation for the reports that there had been conflicts between Austro-Hungarian and German military commanders.

"We will stand together and will hold together until a lasting peace is obtained," Count von Moltke is quoted as saying.

There is great jubilation in army circles, officers expressing the conviction that the enemy has received a crushing blow which is likely to prove decisive in the campaign in Poland.

The Grenadier Corps, which is all-ways quartered in Moscow, the former capital, has been selected for special mention for repeated deeds of gallantry. During the recent fighting three regiments in three days took 5,000 prisoners from the enemy.

The "Army Messenger" asserts that among the spoils taken by the Russians at Czenstochowa was Emperor William's carriage, and that in it was the Emperor's blue coat.

Dealing with the fighting north of Lodz the "Army Messenger" says:

"The Germans are making attack after attack in an attempt to break the Russian forces, but without success. The Austro-German army is staking all on this battle."

The newspaper adds that on the Galician front the Russian offensive is becoming more energetic and is reducing the enemy to a state of impotence.

London, Nov. 25.—While the Russian army headquarters remain along